

## Real People with Relevant Faith for Our Community

www.emmanueluca.org.au www.facebook.com/emmanueluca

8 December & 15 December

## **Front and Centre**

## Worship

#### Sunday 8 Dec

8am, 9.30am Ephesians 6:10-18 Dom Chan

#### Sunday 15 Dec

8am, 9.30am Philippians 2:1-11 Nathan Robertson

#### Sunday 22 Dec

Christmas Carols 6.45pm with food starting at 5pm

## Coming Events

Dec 15 Congregational meeting at 10.50am

Dec 19+20 Holiday Club

**Dec 22** Christmas Carols

**Dec 25** Christmas Day Service 8am

**Dec 29** Summer Worship 9.30am (one service)

Next newsletter **22 December** 

Last Sunday was the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Emmanuel Uniting Church. On the first Sunday in Advent 1994 the first worship services were held at Everton Park, after a number of local congregations were concluded the previous Sunday.

Since then a great deal has happened. There have been great celebrations of Christian life and community - baptisms, confirmations, weddings, funerals, camps, Alpha, youth events. We have sent out people into mission, both local and overseas. We've opened our Bibles together and tried to live as missional disciples, encouraging and supporting each other. We have worshipped together, using our gifts for the common good. We've welcomed newcomers and farewelled old friends.

This was all possible because the members of other congregations, the majority of whom are not here today, decided to surrender their status quo, with all its comfort and familiarity, and follow God into something new. Here we are thanks to the faithful stewardship of those folk.

As we reflect on all that's happened over the last 25 years, and realise how much has changed in that period, it's somewhat daunting to contemplate how much will

change in the next 25 years. We too are called to be good stewards – continuing to surrender our status quo and following God into something new. As we continue to grow and change we need to hold fast to the unchanging building blocks of our faith we are created by a loving God, Christ has restored us through his death and resurrection, we are called to a life of discipleship in the Holy Spirit, the Bible is the living Word of God. I sincerely hope that Emmanuel continues to grow as an effective witness to our local community, that people come to know Jesus as Lord and Saviour, and that the passion for missional discipleship is never lost. I pray that God will raise up leaders who grasp the original vision of building a vibrant and relevant regional church.

So let's reflect and celebrate, and pray that we will be good stewards for the years ahead.

We are pleased to announce that the JNC is ready to commend the name of a new Minister to the congregation. This will occur at a meeting at 10.50 am on 15 December. We hope this is the start of a new chapter in our life and witness together.

**Nathan Robertson** Church Council Chair



### **Follow-Up Questions**

## 8 December - God's Armor Gives Us Strength - Ephesians 6:10-18

#### Here's what happens...

In a letter to Christians who live in Ephesus, Paul instructs them on how to be strong. He tells them to put on God's armor, including a helmet of salvation, a shield of faith, and a sword—God's Word. God gives us everything we need to stand strong!

#### Talk About This...

- What's one thing you're strong enough to do?
- When have you felt the strongest? Was your strength emotional or physical? What gave you your strength?
- What pieces of armour are mentioned? What does each represent? What piece of armor is used for offense?

#### Through the Week

- Gather the family together and have everyone draw a suit of armor to hang by his or her closet or dresser. (Intimidated by drawing a whole suit of armor? Just draw a shield or a sword instead.)
- Whenever you get dressed this week, your picture will remind you to put on God's armor, too! Pray that you'll stand strong in his armor.
- You can also remind each other to put on God's armor when you're leaving home...and at home, too!

# 15 December - Jesus Is Selfless - Philippians 2:1-11

#### Here's what happens...

In a letter to the church in Philippi, Paul advises them to have a selfless attitude like Jesus. That means thinking of others as better than ourselves and looking out for the interests of others. Jesus was selfless when he came from heaven to earth and died for us.

#### Talk About This...

- Share about a time someone in your family gave something up for you.
- How are humility and unity related? How can a person look after both his interests and the interests of others? In the case of conflict of interests whose interests should have priority? Why?
- How can you be humble and confident at the same time?
- How would your life be different if you consistently lived by verses 5-11? How would your relationships be changed?

## **Explore Groups**

Explore groups are a great way to Explore faith as a growing disciple by meeting regularly with others to study God's Word, and spend time in prayer and reflection. Explore groups also build relationships and promote pastoral care.

**How can I join?** Speak with one of the Ministry Team Members, or one of the Church Council Members.

I'm interested, but not available when existing groups meet? Please let the church office know. We may be able to start a new group at a different time.



#### Solfa 2nd & 4th Mon 9:30am KYB

Tues 9:45am

**Wednesday Morning** Wed 9:15am

Wednesday In the Word Wed 7:30pm

**Bunnies Explore Group** Tues 7:00pm

Wednesday Wonderers
Fortnightly Thurs 7:00pm
Thursday Thinkers
2nd & 4th Thurs 7pm
Women's Bible Study

Mon 12.45pm



### **Pastoral Care**

#### **Pastoral Care & Prayer Team** At Emmanuel, pastoral care is "for everyone by everyone". What does this mean? It means that we care for each other in our family, this often happens within our Explore Groups. We also have a dedicated Pastoral Care team lead by Bronwyn Kelly if you want to know more about how this works or to get connected with meal support or want to connect with others with prayer you can contact Bronwyn Kelly who can be contacted in the first instance on 3354 4961

pastoralcare@emmanueluca.org. au

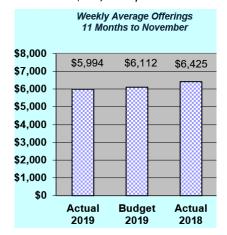
#### **Prayer Points**

- For the congregational meeting on the 15th December.
- ÷ For the potential new minister.
- For Tiny Town and their new Director.
- For families doing it tough this Christmas especially those affected by fire and drought.
- Brigade members going on National camps over the school holidays.

#### **Finances**

Thank you to everyone who has returned their stewardship pledges.

Weekly Average Offerings are approx. \$430/week below Last Year's Offerings which is in excess of \$20,000 per annum.



## **Notices & Coming Events**

Brigades News Thank you to everyone who came and supported office as soon as they can to avoid the Brigades at their display events and have supported us throughout 2019. Both Brigades would also ask if you could pray for those who are attending National camps during January. For more information about Girls' and Boys' Brigade please check out our app/ website.

**Newsletter** We would like to extend a huge thank you to Margaret Douglas for her countless hours of volunteer service over many years organising the Newsletter roster and also helping with the folding of our Emmanuel Newsletter. Thank you Margaret In 2020 we are looking for a new Newsletter champion. Someone to work with Helen in the office to coordinate a team of volunteers to fold our fortnightly newsletter. If this sounds like you, please contact Helen Smith in the office. Thank you.

#### **Christmas Events**

Holiday Club December 19th and 20th. Carols 22nd December.

#### **Volunteers** needed

If you can help with either event by being a leader/helper, first aid officer, helping with craft, set up and clean up, cooking or even with general pre event prep like making name tags or laminating etc (some of which can be done in the comfort of your own home) Please contact Jess Pinkerton she would really appreciate your help. Thank you.

**CHH. HELP WANTED!** We are seeking one more person to pack food bags for distribution for next year. This would entail up to an hour once a month for 10 months of the year. If you are willing to be on this special roster, or if you are vaguely interested and just want to check out what the CHH team does, please contact Roslyn

#### **Group News**

Most groups have now finished for the year and after a time of rest planning for 2020 will commence. If all group leaders can confirm

church room bookings with the disappointment. Bookings can made by emailing <u>buildingbook-</u> <u>ings@emmanueluca.org.au</u>

**Congregational Meeting** 15th December there will be a congregational meeting at 10.50am at which the JNC will be presenting a name to the congregation for approval for our new Senior Minister.

Postage Stamps Please continue to collect used **postage** stamps. There is a blue plastic container in the cupboard in the foyer. (The stamps are a fundraiser for Qld Synod) Thank you. Carole Simpson

Pastoral Care During the holiday season many of our regular groups take a break from meeting regularly. If any pastoral matters come to your attention please take the time to check in with the people in and outside your groups, to offer support. If you feel you need help in supporting someone, please contact the pastoral care or ministry team so that we can try to assist.

At Emmanuel, pastoral care is "for everyone by everyone", and this means for and by you. Please check up on and check in with each other, and if something is worrying you please share it with someone. Together we are family, and together we share Christ's love, care and compassion every day.

Stay Connected and Informed To keep updated with all that is happening at Emmanuel be sure to download the app or check out the website.

















#### **Ministry Team Contacts**

#### **Families Pastor**

Jessica Pinkerton 0438 168 706 jess@emmanueluca.org.au Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri

#### **Worship Pastor**

Dom Chan 0423 902 762

dom@emmanueluca.org.au

Mon, Fri

#### **Office Coordinator**

Helen Smith Church Office: 3355 2162 249 South Pine Rd Enoggera Q 4051

office@emmanueluca.org.au

#### **Office Hours**

Monday to Friday 830am - 3pm

#### **Church Council**

Chair Nathan Robertson Chair@emmanueluca.org.au

**Secretary** Christine Manning <u>secretary@emmanueluca.org.au</u>

**Treasurer** Barry Jardine <u>treasurer@emmanueluca.org.au</u>

Rosemary Costello 3355 4074

Kristy Johnson kristywakem@gmail.com

Dennis Shanks <u>dennis.shanks2099@gmail.com</u>

Alison Anderson <u>alison.a03@gmail.com</u>

#### **Team Leaders**

Support & Resources

Mark Robinson property@emmanueluca.org.au

Pastoral Care

Bronwyn Kelly pastoralcare@emmanueluca.org.au

#### A hearing aid loop is installed on the car park side of the church.

#### **Banking Information**

This is for anyone who would prefer to use Internet Banking for their Offerings, Special Appeals or payments for events e.g. Lights Camera Christmas, Community Helping Hand etc.

BSB: 334 040 Account Number: 553 839 228

Account Name: UCA - Emmanuel Uniting Church Enoggera

Note: Please ensure that you include name and a brief reason for the payment.